



## MEETING MINUTES [DRAFT]

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 | 10:00 AM  
Via WebEx

**Present:** *Interim Chair Diana Almanza*      *Committee Member Lisa Rachowicz*  
*Committee Secretary Cris Plunkett*      *Committee Member Kaleese Street*  
*Committee Member Belinda Dobbs*      *Committee Member Tomiko Eya*  
*Committee Member Britt Creech*      **Absent:**  
*Committee Member Joaquin Remora*      *Committee Member Steven Clark*  
*Committee Member Melanie Muasau*      *Committee Member Traci Watson*

All SMC meetings are public. Homeless and formerly homeless San Franciscans are encouraged to attend.  
**PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN AFTER DISCUSSIONS & BEFORE VOTES/ACTIONS**

I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS** *3 min*  
*Meeting began at 10:04 AM. There was a quorum*

<b>MINUTES</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/ ACTION</b>	
OCTOBER 2022 MINUTES	INTERIM CHAIR ALMANZA	<i>3 min</i>
The Committee voted to approve last month's minutes.		
<b>No public comment</b>		
<b>M/S/C: Plunkett/Eya/Unanimous – Minutes approved</b>		

II. **OLD BUSINESS/REPORTS** **DISCUSSION/ ACTION**

A. **TELECONFERENCED MEETINGS** **ACTION**  
**ACTING CHAIR ALMANZA**      *3 min*

The Committee has been advised by the City Attorney's office to formally approve holding its meetings via teleconference. (The Committee is still awaiting permission from the mayor's office to return to in-person meetings.)

**Public Comment:** None.

**Proposed Action:** *Approve resolution*

**M/S/C:** Eya/Plunkett/passed by a majority - **the resolution was approved.**

B. **SELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS** **DISCUSSION /ACTION**

**Members**      *15 min*

Members were asked to nominate colleagues for officer positions. Secretary Plunkett was nominated for Vice Chair. Vice Chair Almanza was nominated for Chair. Member Eya was nominated for Secretary.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Proposed Action:** *Vote to approve slate of candidates*

**M/S/C:** Eya/Plunkett/passed by a majority - **resolution approved; a vote was taken.**

**Vote: unanimous – the full slate was elected to take office in January of 2023.**

C. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

DPH 12 min

Subject matter expert Theresa Ick gave a brief [PowerPoint presentation](#). BHS provides various services, including substance use disorder treatment and counseling. Referrals come in from shelter health nurses, site staff, and self-referrals.

**Member Comment:** Member Muasau asked about availability. Shelters can call to request consultations. Member Creech pointed out that staff also need help. Help is available for staff, e.g., bereavement support.

**Public Comment:** None.

III. NEW BUSINESS/REPORTS

A. POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE – CHAIR’S SUMMARY

DISCUSSION

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR PLUNKETT 3 min

During last week’s subcommittee meeting, Members discussed new language relating to the frequency of visits for shelters with few complaints, discussed issues related to animals at shelters, the reinflation of shelters, Members’ beginning to do inspections.

**Public Comment:** None.

B. DEPT OF HOMELESSNESS AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

MEMBER RACHOWICZ 20 min

Member Rachowicz went over the current [occupancy report](#). There is a new URL where the public can look at current data related to HSH’s shelter and crisis intervention programs. See <https://hsh.sfgov.org/services/the-homelessness-response-system/shelter/>. There are 15 beds being added to the capacity of 711 Post every month. It will eventually have a capacity of 250 guests. MSC-South and Next Door are preparing to add CAPP beds. Site 10 now has less than 90 guests. They will transfer to supportive housing or to The Baldwin. Taimon Booten intakes were paused due to a staffing shortage but have recommenced. BVHM capacity increased to 45 from 30. There is a pilot for a low-barrier, self-referral option that is about to start up at Hamilton Family. The owners of the Oasis Hotel are not renewing the contract with Providence. HSH is pursuing all options, but the building is scheduled to be sold and the shelter must be vacated by January 3. HSH is securing placements for long-stay guests. Hospitality House is opening 11/18/22.

**Public Comment:** None

**Proposed Action: Approve HSH report**

**M/S/C: Plunkett/Creech/Unanimous – The report was approved**

C. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DISCUSSION

DPH STAFF 10 min

Staff went over the [Standard of Care report](#). 711 Post is open. Staff toured the site. Guests are now able to submit complaints. Inspections will start in January.

**Public Comment:** None

**Member Comment:** Member Remora, in response to the complaint staff discussed in the SOC report, stated that staff have to handle many disputes, training is inadequate, and they need more support. Outside mediators could make a positive difference. They have challenging jobs and it is hard to maintain staffing levels. Service is adversely impacted when staff are overworked.

Interim Chair Almanza saw outside mediators having a positive affect when she worked at Next Door. Restorative justice is a good approach. Member Street thinks many issues go unreported and that more coverage by trained behavioral health staff would be ideal. At minimum, shelters need to be held to training standards. Both guests and staff deserve more attention.

**Proposed Action: Approve DPH report**

**M/S/C: Plunkett/Creech/Unanimous – The report was approved**

**D. ANIMALS IN SHELTERS**

*DISCUSSION*

INTERIM CHAIR ALMANZA *15 min*

To ensure guests and staff know the rules vis-à-vis animals in shelters, a change to inspection forms was proposed. Rules should be posted or otherwise provided to all guests.

*Explanatory document – [Language for Shelter Staff Questionnaire](#)*

**Public comment:** None

**Proposed Action: Approve additional question on inspection forms**

**M/S/C: Dobbs/Eya/Unanimous – The change was approved**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*DISCUSSION*

*3 min*

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**Member comment:** Member Dobbs agrees that both staff and clients are under stress.

**Public comment:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

This item requires a motion, a second, and to be carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:38 PM**

Action Item	Assigned To
Edit inspection forms per item III.D.	Staff

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